

June 14, 2013

During the last 15 months, Bazilio Cobb Associates (BCA), the successor to Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio & Associates, P.C. (TCBA), has cooperated with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia in its investigation of alleged campaign finance violations. Subsequent to the Firm changing ownership in July of last year, it conducted its own internal review and determined that significant amounts were contributed to various federal and local political campaigns over the last ten years by certain TCBA employees, family members and their friends at the direction of the former Chief Executive Officer of TCBA, who was also the majority shareholder at that time. BCA's internal review also revealed that the former CEO may have violated federal campaign law by giving directions to reimburse, with his own funds or with corporate funds, employees and others who made such contributions. BCA disclosed this information to the U.S. Attorney's Office and again cooperated fully with its investigation.

This has been a very difficult time for the Firm, particularly since almost all of its hard-working professionals and staff are not politically active and were not aware of certain federal campaign contribution law requirements. These are accomplished professionals who spend almost all of their work days and weekends on servicing clients and engaging in community, civic, and charitable activities, often in leadership positions. The Firm is relieved that the cloud it has been under for the past 15 months will lift soon.

BCA regrets that its employees and their family members and friends were ensnared by the aggressive solicitation of campaign contributions, including allegedly illegal contributions that occurred at BCA under the previous ownership. The current leadership has and will take responsibility for any actions or inactions that wittingly or unwittingly facilitated this conduct. It should be noted that BCA promptly instituted very strict policies and controls in the summer of 2012, which will ensure that no such alleged violations are repeated.

It also should be noted that at no time has the federal investigation called into question the excellence and integrity of the Firm's work product and its service to its clients. Specifically, there was no connection of any kind between TCBA's client work and the campaign contribution activity, and none is alleged by the federal investigators. That is, no benefit – no client contract – was sought by or came to the Firm on account of any political contributions. The Firm always has competed for contract awards and won them based solely upon its established reputation for doing excellent work and the quality of its bid.

We thank our clients, our supporters, and our community for making our long and proud history a remarkable one and for standing by us in this difficult time. We pledge to continue doing what we do best -- providing exceptional service.